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COUNTRY East Germany REPORT 25X1

TOPIC Military Information from Magdeburg

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REFERENCES

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REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. On 11 December 1953, the Anger Kaserne in Magdeburg was occupied by about 1,000 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets including some with artillery insignia. On 3 and 9 December, about 250 to 300 troops engaged in close-order drill and cleaned 45-mm AT guns. Nine 45-mm AT guns were identified. On 3 and 9 December, about 120 soldiers with 3 to 5 AT guns of 45 mm left the installation toward "Kleine Anger".
2. On 11 December, the Hindenburg Kaserne was occupied by about 1,200 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets including some with tank insignia. Eleven JS-2 tanks and 8 heavy machine guns were identified in the billeting area. About 120 soldiers engaged in gun drill. Two to 5 JS-2 tanks practiced driving on "Grosse Anger" almost daily. 25X1
3. On 11 December, the Flak Kaserne was occupied by about 2,000 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets including some with artillery insignia. On several days between 30 November and 11 December, about 250 troops engaged in fatigue drill, close-order drill and duty on motor vehicles. Twenty-eight guns including 10 to 15 of 37 mm and pertinent trucks were seen in a shed. Five 37-mm AA guns were emplaced east of the barracks installation. About 80 to 100 soldiers trained with light machine guns and entrenching tools on the training grounds.

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5. On 13 December, the Herrenkrug Kaserne was partially occupied. On 2 and 13 December, 3 T-34/85 tanks [] were seen on the firing range. Only little activity was noticed in the installation. A new target range was built in the west sector of the installation, between the villas and the first quarters. 25X1
6. On 13 December, the Hindenburg Kaserne was lightly occupied. No training activity and vehicular traffic were noticed. Between 7 and 13 December, soldiers of various branches of service did maintenance duty on several driving-school trucks in front of the main entrance.
7. On 13 December, the Seeckt Kaserne was occupied to capacity. Sentries wore black-bordered black epaulets. Soldiers engaged in intensive interior duty in the billeting area. Sights and obstacle courses were seen on [] Kleiner Anger.
8. On 13 December, the Nachrichten Kaserne was occupied to capacity. Sentries wore red-bordered black epaulets. On 11 December, there was intensive traffic in the west section of the installation. Athletic contests were apparently held. Five groups, each of 10 to 15 soldiers were engaged in a cross-country run.
9. On 17 December, the Hindenburg Kaserne was not occupied to capacity. Ten to 12 trucks were seen at the entrance of the installation.
10. On 17 December, the Nachrichten Kaserne was not occupied to capacity. On 14 December, 2 officers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia were seen in the billeting area. About 30 soldiers did gymnastics. There was intensive interior activity.
11. On 17 December, the Seeckt Kaserne was heavily occupied. On 14 December, about 25 to 30 soldiers, presumably recruits, engaged in aiming practices on the Alte Elbe River. Troops at the installation were employed in interior duty.
12. On 17 December, the Herrenkrug Kaserne was occupied to capacity. On 17 December, about 120 soldiers received close-order drill and other soldiers practiced aiming with three tanks on the target range.
13. On 14 December, the Encke Kaserne was occupied to capacity. Many officers and soldiers were seen in the billeting area between 1 and 14 December. 25X1
14. On 14 December, the Seeckt Kaserne was occupied by about 1,800 troops who wore black-bordered black epaulets. No changes in the occupation of the garages occurred. On 2 December, about 25 soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets engaged in excavation work on the training area opposite the barracks installation while about 120 other soldiers worked on the Kleiner Anger training grounds. On 14 December, about 90 soldiers with three medium pneumatic rafts were marching along Jerichow Strasse toward [] Kleiner Anger and Alte Elbe. Fifteen soldiers received close-combat training in the barracks yard.

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15. On 14 December, the Zuckerbusch Kaserne was occupied by about 100 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets with medical service insignia. About 30 soldiers engaged in fatigue duty on the engineer dumping site in the barracks area.
16. On 14 December, the Nachrichten Kaserne was occupied by about 1,500 troops. On 2 and 5 December, 120 to 130 soldiers with entrenching tools left the installation toward ~~the~~ Grosse Anger. On 14 December, about 30 soldiers engaged in athletic exercises in the installation while about 30 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets marched out of the installation toward ~~the~~ Grosse Anger.
17. On 14 December, the Flak Kaserne was occupied by about 1,500 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets including some with black-bordered crimson epaulets. On 2 December, about 10 to 12 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets trained with 4 x 37-mm AA guns on the athletic field and about 100 other soldiers received close-order drill. On 5 December, about 80 soldiers practiced firing on the target range at the extension of Zippkeleber Weg. On 10 December, soldiers practiced aiming with 4 x 76-mm AA guns in the AAA emplacement east of the athletic field.
18. On 14 December, the Herrenkrug Kaserne was occupied by about 1,500 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets and the Anger Kaserne by about 1,200 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with drab-colored medical-service insignia. Twenty trucks, 9 sidecar motorcycles and 3 T-34 tanks were in the billeting area. No training activity was noticed.
1. Comment. Contrary to paragraphs 5, 6 and 9, it is believed that the Hindenburg Kaserne (5285) and Herrenkrug Kaserne (5283) were occupied to capacity in mid-December, as had previously been inferred from the last report of late November and can be inferred from the present report, except for paragraphs 5, 6 and 9. The erroneous strength estimates probably came from the little training activity which is usually small at that time of the year. Report, however, indicates no changes in the distribution of units in Magdeburg post. The information in paragraph 2 is believed incorrect as the Hindenburg Kaserne has so far been carried as quartering the 105th Sig Regt of the Third Shock Army and motor transport units of the army and/or of the 19th Gds Mecz Div.

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